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General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session

Official Records

First Committee
22nd meeting
Monday, 28 October 2002, 10 a.m.
New York

Chairman: Mr. Kiwanuka ..... (Uganda)

The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

Agenda items 57, 58 and 60 to 73 (*continued*)

Action on all draft resolutions submitted under all disarmament and international security agenda items

The Chairman: This morning the Committee will continue to take action on draft resolutions that appear in informal working paper No. 6, which was circulated in the Committee on Friday. Before proceeding, I should like to inform delegations that action on the Chairman's text, A/C.1/57/L.26/Rev.2 — which will be issued in blue form this morning — will be postponed until tomorrow morning in order to give those delegations that may wish to consult their capitals the requisite 24 hours.

Before the Committee proceeds to take a decision on the draft resolutions contained in cluster 1, namely "Nuclear weapons", I shall give the floor to those delegations wishing to make a general statement other than an explanation of vote or to introduce revised draft resolutions.

Does any delegation wish to take the floor at this stage?

I see none.

The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1.

A recorded vote has been requested.

I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee to conduct the voting.

Mr. Sattar (Secretary of the Committee): The Committee will proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1, entitled "Reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons". This draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Ireland at the 11th meeting, on 14 October 2002. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in document A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1. In addition, Samoa, Vanuatu, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Uruguay and Paraguay have become sponsors of the draft.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria,

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Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

Against:

France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Yugoslavia.

Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1 was adopted by 115 votes to 3, with 38 abstentions.

The Chairman: I shall now give the floor to those delegations wishing to make statements in explanation of vote on the draft resolution just adopted.

Mr. Vasiliev (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): The issue of the reduction and limitation of nuclear weapons remains among the foremost priorities in the Russian Federation's international security and disarmament policy.

Russia, with broad support from the international community, including from the countries of the non-nuclear Coalition, has made a significant contribution to the practical implementation of measures aimed at practical nuclear disarmament. These include the successful implementation by Russia of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, which eliminated an entire class of non-strategic nuclear weapons; the implementation by Russia of START reductions; and the signing last May of the new Russia-United States Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions. A great deal also has been done, and continues to be done, to reduce non-strategic nuclear weapons in the framework of unilateral presidential initiatives taken in 1991 and 1992. Those initiatives include a number of disarmament measures on tactical nuclear weapons. The overwhelming majority of those measures have already been implemented. Russia provided detailed information in that regard during the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

Russia is ready to continue moving forward in implementing the agreements as part of its programme of further nuclear weapons reductions. At the same time, prospects for regulating and reducing non-strategic nuclear weapons by means of international treaties and agreements are still rather unclear. There are still significant differences of opinion among a number of nuclear-weapon States as regards the place and the role of non-strategic nuclear weapons in national security and in promoting stability. As of today, there are no unified, clear criteria that could be followed in defining non-strategic nuclear weapons and what specific weapons should be included in that category.

I note in particular the as-yet-unresolved problems relating to the deployment of nuclear weapons in the territory of non-nuclear-weapon States. All of these issues require the thorough and objective consideration of all countries concerned, taking into account the well-known proposals of the Russian Federation. I am referring in particular to the return of nuclear weapons to the national territories of the countries that possess them and the withdrawal of nuclear weapons from tactical aircraft.

We understand the nuclear disarmament concerns of the non-nuclear-weapon States, and we are ready to discuss them, including within the Conference on Disarmament. While, overall, we endorse the general impact of draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1, we believe that a number of the steps proposed in it are premature. That is why Russia is not ready to support the draft resolution.

Mr. Mäki-Reinikka (Finland): I am taking the floor to explain Finland's vote on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1, entitled "Reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons", which has been adopted by the First Committee. We welcome the broad international recognition of the need for serious and substantive deliberations on non-strategic nuclear weapons in the framework of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). Finland therefore attaches great importance to the issue addressed in the draft

resolution. We also take note with appreciation of the constructive approach that the sponsors demonstrated in drafting the final version of the text. The common understanding on the first preliminary measures to be taken in that sphere was reached during the 2000 NPT Review Conference. We look forward to the NPT Review Conference in 2005, which will provide more opportunities for further action in that area. It is in that context that my delegation was able to vote in favour of the draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1.

Mr. Hu Xiaodi (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): China has always advocated the complete prohibition and destruction of all types of nuclear weapons at an early date. However, neither the concept nor the definition of non-strategic nuclear weapons, which are the subject of the draft resolution, is clear, which will lead to difficulties in implementation. Whether this issue should be accorded priority in nuclear disarmament is also something that needs to be discussed. For those reasons, the Chinese delegation did not participate in the vote on A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1, entitled "Reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons".

Mr. McGinnis (United States of America): I have asked for the floor to explain my delegation's negative vote on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1, "Reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons". I have the honour to speak, too, on behalf of the delegations of France and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Although those countries have no non-strategic nuclear weapons in their arsenals, they wish to be associated with this statement.

Our delegations voted against the draft resolution, not because we oppose dealing with non-strategic nuclear weapons; on the contrary, we are fully committed to doing so. We also remain committed to the effective implementation of the Final Document of the 2000 NPT Review Conference and the wording on non-strategic nuclear weapons contained in it. It is, of course, up to each State to decide how to implement the conclusions in the Final Document. Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1, however, takes a fundamentally flawed approach to that important question; it also fails to take into account alternative approaches that have borne fruit in the past, and the fact that efforts to tackle this issue are already under way.

Since 1991, the types and numbers of NATO sub-strategic nuclear forces have been significantly reduced, including the elimination of entire categories of such weapons. None of those reductions required negotiation of formal legal instruments, as envisioned in draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1. The United States and Russia also undertook parallel unilateral initiatives in 1991 and 1992 that significantly reduced their non-strategic nuclear weapons. In addition, draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1 selectively quotes from the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in a way that distorts its language on non-strategic nuclear weapons.

One concept that is missing from the draft resolution is the idea — clearly stated in the Final Document — that steps by the nuclear-weapon States lead to nuclear disarmament in a way that promotes international stability and that they should be based on the principle of undiminished security for all.

It is clear that a formal arms-control approach to non-strategic nuclear weapons as called for in draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1 would present problems of definition, fundamental verification problems, issues of access to sensitive facilities, vast force-level asymmetries and other major obstacles. Without in any way impugning the motives of the sponsors of A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1, we believe that the approach it outlines to dealing with non-strategic nuclear weapons is unrealistic and impractical and would have virtually no prospect of success.

Nuclear confidence-building measures for non-strategic nuclear weapons are already being discussed with Russia in the NATO-Russia Council. In addition, transparency for non-strategic nuclear weapons was raised on 20 September at the first meeting of the United States-Russia Consultative Group for Strategic Security (CGSS). It will continue to be addressed in future CGSS meetings.

We believe that continuing dialogue and the efforts already under way are the best way to achieve meaningful results in this area. By bringing non-strategic nuclear weapons into the United Nations arena, draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1 risks complicating and interfering with those efforts. We therefore voted against it.

Mr. Westdal (Canada): I have asked for the floor to explain the Government of Canada's abstention on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1, entitled "Reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons". The objective of the Government of Canada is the complete elimination of

all nuclear weapons. Canada believes that the current security and the ultimate fate of the more than 12,000 non-strategic nuclear weapons in existence are subjects warranting discussion and action as and when appropriate in this and other multilateral forums.

Many elements of the draft resolution submitted by the New Agenda Coalition on this subject are consistent with long-standing Canadian nuclear disarmament policy, but Canada abstained on the draft resolution out of our conviction that it is most productive for the present to focus on the detailed technical aspects of this issue in the forums currently appropriate for such discussions.

Have no doubt, Mr. Chairman, that Canada will continue to pursue both the technical and the broader policy questions actively with its friends and allies over the coming months. As part of this approach, we plan to continue a constructive dialogue with the sponsors of the draft resolution.

Mr. Baublys (Lithuania): Lithuania has abstained on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1, entitled "Reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons". This position must not, however, be regarded as fully exhausting our approach to the issue of non-strategic nuclear weapons. We recall that the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NTP) commits nuclear-weapon States to the reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process. The reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons could be addressed within this framework. Recognizing that the reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons is hardly possible in one stroke, a gradual approach that builds on the consensus of all States concerned is the best way to make real progress on the implementation of that NTP commitment.

At the same time, we share the expressed concern at the lack of transparency and confidence with respect to this issue. Therefore, Lithuania supports the special security and physical protection efforts, as well as the call for confidence-building and transparency measures and for reducing the operational status of non-strategic nuclear weapons systems, as proposed in operative paragraphs five, six and seven of the draft resolution.

Mr. Smith (Australia): Australia supports efforts to rid the world of all types of nuclear weapons, including non-strategic nuclear weapons. Regrettably, however, we have a number of substantive difficulties with this draft resolution, notably the failure of the draft resolution to recognize the substantial reductions in non-strategic weapons that have already taken place over the last decade.

We are concerned that the draft resolution is not consistent with the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons by prescribing how States' commitments in the Final Document should be carried out. We also have concerns with the preambular reference to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of nuclear weapons. For those reasons, Australia has abstained on this draft resolution.

Mr. Assaf (Lebanon) (*spoke in Arabic*): Briefly, I would like to draw your attention to the second preambular paragraph of the French text of draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.2/Rev.1, which says that the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons took place in 2002, whereas it took place in 2000. I just wanted to draw your attention to that mistake.

The Chairman: I thank the representative of Lebanon for that correction.

As no other delegation wishes to speak, the Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.21/Rev.1.

As no delegation wishes to explain its position or vote before the vote, the Committee will now proceed to take a decision on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.21/Rev.1.

Mr. Sattar (Secretary of the Committee): Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.21/Rev.1, entitled "Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status" was introduced by the representative of Mongolia at the 15th meeting, on 17 October.

The Chairman: I give the floor to the representative of Mongolia.

Mr. Erendo (Mongolia): My delegation has expressed the wish that the draft resolution be adopted without a vote.

The Chairman: The sponsors of draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.21/Rev.1 have expressed the wish that it be adopted by the Committee without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.21/Rev.1 was adopted.

The Chairman: I now call on those representatives who wish to explain their position on the draft resolution just adopted.

Mr. Kumar (India): My delegation has requested the floor just to explain its position on this draft resolution. We would like to say that Mongolia, a country with which India has extremely close and friendly relations, enjoys a special and unique position, made even more so by its nuclear-weapon-free status.

India is pleased to see that Mongolia has taken a number of concrete measures to reinforce its nuclear-weapon-free status, including the adoption of national domestic legislation. India is pleased that Mongolia has received support and security assurances from Member States, particularly those that possess nuclear weapons, for its nuclear-weapon-free status.

We acknowledge with appreciation, and convey our support for, Mongolia's statement of 2 October this year at the General Assembly, informing of Mongolia's efforts, together with appropriate United Nations bodies, to find ways of institutionalizing at the international level its territory as a nuclear-weapon-free zone.

India fully respects the choice made by Mongolia. We are willing to respond whenever required with all possible support and commitment to Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status.

The Chairman: Let us proceed to cluster 4, Conventional weapons: Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects. Does any delegation wish to take the floor in explanation of the vote before the vote? There is none

The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.46.

I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee to conduct the voting.

Mr. Sattar (Secretary of the Committee): The Committee will now proceed to take a decision on the draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.46, entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects". The representative of Sweden introduced this draft resolution at the 13th meeting, on 16 October.

Sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in document A/C.1/57/46, as well as in document A/C.1/57/INF/2. In addition, the following countries have also become sponsors of the draft resolution: Bolivia, El Salvador and Ukraine.

I would like to draw members attention to a note by the Secretariat concerning the responsibilities entrusted to the Secretary-General under draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.46. This note is contained in document A/C.1/57/L.59.

The Chairman: The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that the Committee adopt the draft resolution without a vote. As I hear no objection, I take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly. It is so decided.

Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.46 was adopted.

The Chairman: The delegation of Malaysia would like to take the floor in explanation of the vote after the vote.

Mr. Mohd. Hassan (Malaysia): My delegation is taking the floor in regard to draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.46 to inform the Committee that Malaysia is not a State party to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. However, we have decided to join the consensus.

The Chairman: We now proceed to cluster 6, Confidence-building measures, including transparency in armament.

The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.15. Is there any delegation that wishes to take the floor in explanation of its vote or position before the vote? I take it that there is none.

I give the floor to the Secretary of the Committee to conduct the voting.

Mr. Sattar (Secretary of the Committee): The Committee will now proceed to take a decision on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.15, entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa". This draft resolution was introduced by the representative of the Central African Republic at the 14th meeting, on 17 October. The sponsors of the draft resolution are listed in document A/C.1/57/L.15.

With regard to draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.15, I would like to put on record the following statements on financial implications, on behalf of the Secretary-General.

By operative paragraphs 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14 and 15 of draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.15 the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to, inter alia, provide assistance to the early-warning mechanism in Central Africa for it to function properly. It would request the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Center for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa.

The Assembly would also request the Secretary-General, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1197 (1998), to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the necessary support for the implementation and smooth functioning of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa and the early-warning mechanism. Also, the Assembly would request the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to provide increased assistance to the countries of Central Africa for coping with the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories, and would request the Secretary-General to continue to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with assistance to ensure that they are able to carry on their efforts.

Implementation of the requests contained in the operative paragraphs 14 and 15, regarding provision of assistance to the States members of the Committee and the submission of a report to the General Assembly, would be carried out within the resources provided under Section 4, Disarmament, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

The activities of the Standing Advisory Committee, including those related to the implementation of the functioning of the early-warning mechanism and the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa referred to in operative paragraphs 7 and 9, as well as those related to the establishment of a network of parliamentarians referred to in operative paragraph 10, are expected to be funded from voluntary contributions to the trust fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa.

Implementation of the request contained in operative paragraph 8 regarding the provision of assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Center for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa will be carried out within existing resources under Section 22, Human Rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003. Implementation of the activities requested in operative paragraph 11 regarding the increased assistance to the countries of Central Africa for coping with the problem of refugees and displaced persons in their countries and territories would be subject to the availability of voluntary contributions to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Therefore, should the General Assembly adopted draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.15, no additional requirements would be needed in the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

The Chairman: The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that the draft resolution be adopted by the Committee without a vote. I hear no objection, so I take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly. It is so decided

Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.15 was adopted.

The Chairman: The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.8/Rev.1. Does any delegation wish to take the floor?

The delegation of South Africa wishes to take the floor to make a general statement in respect to draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.8/Rev.1.

Ms. Notutela (South Africa): Since we were short of time on Friday and did not get the opportunity to reintroduce the NAM draft resolution, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, to refer to A/C.1/57/L.8/Rev.1, entitled "Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament". The draft resolution was recirculated on Friday by the Secretariat. The following changes have been made to the text.

In operative paragraph 1, the words "working on the basis of consensus" should be added after the words "Open-ended Working Group". The word "possible" should be added before the words "establishment of the preparatory committee".

In operative paragraph 2, the word "possible" should be added before the words "substantive recommendations".

In operative paragraph 3, the words "within existing resources" should be added after the words "the Secretary-General".

The Non-Aligned Movement has worked closely with other groups and States to bring about changes to the text that would lead to a consensus text. I would like to thank those delegations for their cooperation and spirit of compromise.

The Chairman: I call on the representative of Indonesia.

Mr. Thamrin (Indonesia): I would like to ask that this draft resolution be adopted without a vote. That is the understanding with regard to draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.8/Rev.1.

The Chairman: I call on the Secretary of the Committee to conduct the voting.

Mr. Sattar (Secretary of the Committee): The Committee will now proceed to take a decision on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.8/Rev.1, entitled "Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament". The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, at the 16th meeting, on 18 October.

In this connection, I should like to say that, under the terms of paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would decide to establish an open-ended working group to consider the objectives and agenda, including the possible establishment of the preparatory committee, for the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.

Under the terms of paragraph 2, it would request the open-ended working group to meet for an organizational session in order to set the date for its substantive sessions, and to submit a report on its work, including possible substantive recommendations, before the end of the fifty-seventh General Assembly session.

Also, under the terms of paragraph 3, it would request the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to provide the open-ended working group with the necessary assistance and services as may be required to discharge its tasks.

Pursuant to the aforementioned decision and requests, it is envisaged that the open-ended working group will hold four sessions in 2003 in New York, as follows:

January 2003: one day; one meeting; interpretation in all six languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish; documentation in all six languages; no pre-session or in-session and one page of post-session.

April 2003: one week; one meeting per day, for a total of five meetings; interpretation in all six languages; documentation in all six languages; no pre-session, 30 pages of in-session and no post-session.

May 2003: one week; one meeting per day, for a total of five meetings; interpretation in all six languages; documentation in all six languages; no pre-session, 30 pages of in-session and no post-session.

June 2003: one week; one meeting per day, for a total of five meetings; interpretation in all six languages; documentation in all six languages; 25 pages of pre-session, no in-session and 25 pages of post-session.

It is to be understood that the exact dates for the aforementioned meetings will be determined in consultation between the substantive secretariat and the Department for General Assembly Affairs and Conference Management, subject to the availability of conference facilities and services allocated to the General Assembly and its working groups and on the condition that no two working groups of the General Assembly shall meet simultaneously.

The conference servicing requirements, at full cost, are estimated in 2003 at $268,800. The extent to which the Organization's capacity will need to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources can be determined only in the light of the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2002-2003. However, provision is made under the relevant section for conference services of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 not only for meetings programmes at the time of budget preparations, but also for meetings authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings are consistent with the pattern of meetings of past years.

Consequently, as no other requirements are foreseen should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, no additional appropriation for the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 would be required to implement the draft resolution.

The Chairman: The sponsors of draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.8/Rev.1 have expressed the wish that it be adopted by the Committee without a vote. As I hear no objection, I shall take it that it is the wish of the Committee to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.8/Rev.1 was adopted.

The Chairman: The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.1.

I call on the Secretary of the Committee to conduct the voting.

Mr. Sattar (Secretary of the Committee): The Committee will now proceed to take a decision on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.1, entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security". The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of the Russian Federation at the 16th meeting, on 18 October.

In connection with draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.1, I wish to put on record the following statement on financial implications on behalf of the Secretary-General.

By paragraph 4 of draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.1, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to consider existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them, and to conduct a study of relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts, to be established in 2004, appointed by him on the basis of equitable geographical distribution and with the help of Member States in a position to render such assistance, and to submit a report on the outcome of the study to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session.

It is envisaged that the group of experts would hold its sessions in New York according to the following schedule: one session in 2004 and two sessions in 2005. The conference servicing requirements at full cost for the sessions to be held in 2004 and 2005 are estimated to be $569,600. Such requirements would have to be included under section 2 on General Assembly and conference management in the context of the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.

It is envisaged that non-conference servicing requirements would be needed to allow the Department for Disarmament Affairs to provide the necessary substantive services to the sessions of the proposed group of governmental experts to be held in New York in 2004-2005. Preliminary estimates of such requirements amount to $286,900, as follows: $250,000 for the travel and subsistence of experts; $21,500 for consultancy services, including travel expenses; and $15,400 for three months of general temporary assistance for support services. Related provisions would have to be reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005, under section 4 on disarmament. Therefore, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.1, the related conference servicing and non-conference servicing requirements would be considered in the context of the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.

The Chairman: The sponsors of the draft resolution have expressed the wish that the draft resolution be adopted by the Committee without a vote. If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Committee wishes to act accordingly.

Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.1 was adopted.

The Chairman: The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.17. I call on those delegations wishing to explain their position or vote before the vote.

Mr. De la Fortelle (France) (*spoke in French*): I take the floor in explanation of vote on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.17.

The draft resolution submitted this year by South Africa on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries does not seem to us to be in keeping with the Final Document adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development held in 1987. A consensus emerged at that time to adopt a realistic approach to the issue, an approach that France has always supported. For three reasons, my country feels that the draft resolution submitted today goes beyond that 1987 consensus.

First, the concept of a symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development, as reflected in the sixth preambular paragraph, does not take into account the concept of security, without which this set of problems cannot be understood.

Secondly, while acknowledging the considerable benefits that may flow from disarmament, it is appropriate to point out that there is no simple nor automatic link between the commitments we are

making with regard to promoting cooperation for economic and social development, on one hand, and the savings that might be achieved in other areas, including disarmament, on the other hand, as is apparently suggested in operative paragraph 5.

Thirdly, though we welcome the report submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 56/24 E, the establishment of a group of governmental experts on the relationship between development and disarmament must be submitted to States for their evaluation, as specified by the Secretary-General. In other words, the mandate of such a group must be spelled out.

France prefers to abstain in the vote on this draft resolution for those three reasons, while emphasizing once again the importance it attaches to its ongoing commitment to cooperation for development.

The Chairman: Are there any other delegations wishing to speak in explanation of vote before the vote? As no other delegation wishes to speak, we can now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.17.

A recorded vote has been requested.

I call on the Secretary to conduct the voting.

Mr. Sattar (Secretary of the Committee): The Committee will now proceed to take action on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.17, entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development". This draft resolution was introduced by the representative of South Africa on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at the 16th meeting, on 18 October.

Before proceeding to the vote in connection with the draft resolution entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development", I wish to put on record the following statement on financial implications on behalf of the Secretary-General.

By operative paragraph 2 of draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.17, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General, within available financial resources and with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be established in 2003, to present for the consideration of the General Assembly at the fifty-ninth session a report with recommendations for a reappraisal of the relationship between disarmament and development in the current international context, as well as the role of the Organization in this connection.

It is envisaged that the group of governmental experts would hold three sessions. The first session, in 2003, would be of one week in New York, and the second and third sessions would be of two weeks each in 2004 in New York, as follows: first, from November 2003, tentatively 17 to 21 November, one week, two meetings per day, a total of 10 meetings, interpretation in all six languages, documentation in English, French and Spanish, 18 pages of pre-session, no in-session and 10 pages of post-session; second, March 2004, one week, two meetings per day, total of 10 meetings, interpretation in all six languages, documentation in English, French and Spanish, no pre-session pages, 10 pages of in-session and 10 pages of post-session; third, May 2004, one week, two meetings per day, total of 10 meetings, interpretation in all six languages, documentation in English, French and Spanish, no pre-session pages, 10 pages of in-session and no post-session pages.

The conference servicing requirements for the session of governmental experts are estimated at full cost to be $114,800 in 2003 and $195,100 in 2004. Preliminary estimates for non-conference servicing requirements amount to $515,350 as follows: $458,700 for travel in substance of the experts; $33,250 for consultancy services, including travel expenses; and $23,400 for six months of general temporary assistance — three months for secretarial support and three months for administrative support services. Of the estimated non-conference servicing requirements, $137,780 would be required in 2003 and $377,570 would be required in 2004.

It should be understood that the exact dates for the above meetings will be determined in consultation between the substantive secretariat and the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Management, subject to the availability of conference facilities and services.

With regard to 2003 meetings, the extent to which the Organization's capacity would need to be supplemented by temporary assistance, resources can be determined only in the light of the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2002 and 2003. However, provision is made under the relevant section for conference services of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 not only for meetings

programmed at the time of budget preparation, but also for meetings authorized subsequently, provided that the number and the distribution of meetings are consistent with a pattern of meetings of past years. Consequently, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, no additional appropriation would be required in the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003.

As to the non-conference servicing requirements, provision available in the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2203 would allow the Department for Disarmament Affairs to provide the appropriate services for the first session of the proposed group of governmental experts to be held in New York in 2003 and to prepare the report of the group of governmental experts.

However, provision estimated at $377,570 would have to be made under section 4, Disarmament, of the programme budget for the 2004-2005 biennium, which would allow the Department for Disarmament Affairs to provide the necessary services for the second and third sessions of the proposed group of experts.

Therefore, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.17, the related conference-servicing requirements of $195,100 and the non-conference-servicing requirements of $377,600 for the second and third sessions of the proposed group of experts, to be held in 2004, would be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005, under section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference Management, and section 4, Disarmament, respectively.

The Chairman: We will now take a decision on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.17.

A recorded vote has been requested.

I call on the Secretary of the Committee to conduct the voting.

Mr. Sattar (Secretary of the Committee): The Committee will now take a decision on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.17.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

France, Israel, Monaco, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.17 was adopted by 156 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.

The Chairman: I now call on those delegations wishing to explain their position or vote on the draft resolution just adopted.

Mr. McGinnis (United States of America): In the past, the United States did not participate in the voting on this draft resolution, and it was adopted by consensus. However, additional language was

introduced in this year's resolution, which, among other things, proposes a reappraisal of the relationship between disarmament and development. Accordingly, the United States voted against draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.17, which asserts a relationship between disarmament and development. We continue to believe that disarmament and development are two distinct issues that do not lend themselves to being linked. It was for that reason that the United States did not participate in the 1987 Conference held on this matter. Accordingly, the United States does not and will not consider itself bound by the Declaration in the Final Document of the International Conference.

Mr. Angelet (Belgium) (*spoke in French*): I have the honour to take the floor on behalf of Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands as well as Portugal, Finland, Italy, Spain, Greece, Denmark, Ireland, Sweden and Austria, which have associated themselves with this explanation of vote on draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.17, entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development".

Adopted by consensus last year, the draft resolution was put to the vote this time. After due consideration, we decided that we would speak in favour of the text. We readily admit that considerable benefits may flow from disarmament. Having said that, we believe that we should also point out that there is no automatic link between the savings generated by any increase in disarmament, on the one hand, and our commitments to cooperation for development, on the other.

Finally, we want to take this opportunity to express once again our firm commitment to cooperation for development — a commitment that is proven daily in deeds.

Mr. Heinsberg (Germany): Again this year, Germany voted in favour of the draft resolution entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development". Disarmament and development are urgent challenges facing the world today. They constitute high-priority concerns of the international community. Both strengthen international peace and security and promote prosperity. However, they are distinct processes. As such, each must be pursued, regardless of the pace of progress in the other. While recognizing the considerable benefits that may accrue from disarmament, we believe that there is no simple, automatic link between commitments to economic and social development and to savings that may be realized in other areas, including disarmament.

Unlike last year's draft resolution, this year's draft resolution contains a request addressed to the Secretary-General to present for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report containing recommendations for the reappraisal of the relationship between disarmament and development in the current international context. We expect that report to take account of the multidimensional relationship between disarmament and development. It should also take a look at the significant problems arising from over-armament in many regions of the developing world and at the benefits that would result from regional disarmament agreements to be negotiated in those regions.

Mr. Broucher (United Kingdom): The United Kingdom recognizes the benefits that can come from disarmament and the positive impact that they may have on economic and social development. It is for that reason that, in previous years, the United Kingdom has, in the company of its European Union colleagues, been able to join the consensus on this draft resolution. This year, however, we have been unable to do so and have abstained on the draft resolution. Let me explain why.

Draft resolution A/C.1/57/L.17 contains a number of significant new elements, in both the preambular and the operative paragraphs. We acknowledge the challenges faced by the international community and the development agenda in the emerging post-cold-war world. But we are not convinced that the changes taking place have matured enough to allow a group of experts established at this time to be able to reappraise the situation in anything other than general, and possibly inconclusive, terms. Although operative paragraph 2 asks the Secretary-General to establish the group within existing resources, we question the need for the establishment of such a group now and the added value of any work that might be undertaken by it.

The Chairman: In accordance with the Committee's programme of work and timetable, the First Committee will embark on the fourth phase of its work, namely, the general debate, consideration of action on draft resolutions submitted under agenda item 59, the question of Antarctica, on Wednesday, 30 October 2002. In this connection, I would like to invite those delegations wishing to participate in the general debate to kindly inscribe their names on the list of

speakers as soon as possible in order to enable the Committee to efficiently use the conference facilities available to it.

I would like to remind members of the Committee that the deadline for submission of draft resolutions under agenda item 59 is 6 p.m. on Wednesday, 30 October. I would also like to ask those delegations wishing to submit draft resolutions under this agenda item to kindly submit them as soon as possible, with a diskette, in order to enable the Secretariat to issue them as official documents of the Committee.

I would like to inform the Committee that a ceremony of presentation of the 2002 Disarmament Fellowship certificates will be taking place in this Conference Room immediately after this meeting. Consequently, I very kindly ask that all delegations remain in their seats during the ceremony and congratulate our junior colleagues.

Before proceeding to the next agenda item, I would like to remind delegations that the Chair's draft resolution has been circulated in blue form and at the request of a number of delegations, will be considered tomorrow. The Committee's attention is drawn to operative paragraphs 2 and 3, which should be read in conjunction with Rev.2.

I now give the floor to the Secretary, who would like to make some announcements.

Mr. Sattar (Secretary of the Committee): I have been requested to announce that the meeting of the Working Group of the Non-Aligned Movement will take place this afternoon at 1.15 p.m. in Conference Room 6.

The Chairman: The delegation of Canada would like to take the floor.

Mr. Westdal (Canada): I would like to announce that a meeting of the Mason Group will take place at 3.30 p.m. at the Canadian Mission, for lack of a room in the United Nations facilities, on the 14th floor of the building at 885 Second Avenue.

The Chairman: The next meeting of the First Committee will be convened tomorrow morning at 10 a.m. sharp in Conference Room 1.

This segment of our meeting is adjourned.

Now I would like to ask all delegations to remain in their seats, while we proceed to the next agenda item.

Awarding of certificates to participants in the United Nations Programme of Fellowships on Disarmament

The Chairman: I would like now to proceed to a very special event in the First Committee, namely, to the awarding of certificates to the participants in the 2002 United Nations Programme of Fellowships on Disarmament. It is a particularly gratifying occasion for all of us, because by awarding these certificates to the Disarmament Fellows, we are welcoming them among us as new colleagues, with whom we will in the near future continue our joint efforts aimed at strengthening international peace and security through arms limitation and disarmament.

As delegates are aware, the Programme, since its establishment in 1978 at the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, has been providing training for young diplomats from Member States, particularly from developing countries, in order to enhance their knowledge and practical skills so that they could participate effectively in deliberations and negotiations in various international conferences and meetings on arms limitation and disarmament.

Today, 29 Fellows are receiving certificates of participation in the Programme, and they will soon join another 557 alumni from almost 150 countries, all of whom successfully concluded their training throughout 24 years of the Programme's operation. Many of these alumni now hold positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament within their own countries. It is also worth emphasizing that a number of delegations present in this very Conference Room today are also alumni of the Programme

We note with appreciation that, over the years, Member States have demonstrated their continuous support to the Programme and have, on many occasions, acknowledged its successful implementation by the Department for Disarmament Affairs. It has also been amply demonstrated at the current session of the First Committee, when the draft resolution on United Nations Disarmament Fellowship training and advisory services, introduced by Nigeria, attracted a remarkable number of countries, who sponsored it and subsequently adopted it without a vote.

On behalf of the delegations of the First Committee, as well as on my own behalf, I congratulate each and every one of you for having

successfully participated in the Programme, and I wish you every success in the discharge of your new duties.

I now give the floor to the Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs, Mr. Jayantha Dhanapala, to continue the ceremony by awarding certificates to the 2002 Disarmament Fellows.

Mr. Dhanapala (Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs): It gives me great pleasure to address you on the occasion of the Certificate Awarding Ceremony of the 2002 United Nations Programme of Fellowships on Disarmament. It has already become a tradition for this ceremony to be held in the First Committee, before the representatives of Member States who have been deliberating here, year after year, on recommendations to guide international efforts in the area of arms control and disarmament and under the patronage of the Chairman of this Committee.

On this symbolic occasion, disarmament Fellows are admitted to the community of seasoned and experienced negotiators who seek ways and means of strengthening international peace and security through effective arms control and disarmament measures.

The United Nations Programme of Fellowships on Disarmament is a highly successful long-term project of the Organization in training young diplomats from Member States, particularly from the developing countries, for effective participation in international forums to deliberate and negotiate on a wide range of arms control and disarmament issues.

The Programme was established by the General Assembly at its first special session devoted to disarmament in 1978, on the initiative of Nigeria. Throughout its 24 years of existence, the Programme, implemented by the Department for Disarmament Affairs, has trained 586 officials from 148 Member States. Next year will be the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Programme.

Many of the Programme's alumni currently hold positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament within their own Governments and represent their countries in this Committee, in the Conference on Disarmament or in other arms limitation and disarmament conferences or meetings. It is, therefore, not surprising that Member States have on many occasions acknowledged the successful implementation of the Programme and its role in enhancing the capabilities of public officials to follow ongoing deliberations and negotiations. Also, the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services identified it as the most successful United Nations training programme it has ever reviewed.

That is not mere coincidence or happenstance. It is a result of the carefully planned and executed policy of the Department for Disarmament Affairs to maintain the highest possible standard of the Programme and to adjust it to the rapidly evolving security environment, as well as to the needs of Member States in this field. Indeed, this is a truly challenging task for the smallest Department of the United Nations, particularly since the financial resources allocated for this purpose have remained unchanged, although the membership of the Organization has today risen to 191.

The viability of such a results-based approach to the implementation of the Programme has been widely recognized by Member States and has been demonstrated by their undiminished interest in seeking fellowships for their officials. Every year the Department receives more than 60 nominations for the Programme, out of which up to 30 Fellows are carefully selected, with due regard to equal geographical representation and to the needs of Member States that either have never been represented in the Programme or have been absent for a long time, as well as with due regard to gender equality.

This year three Member States benefit for the first time from participation in the Fellowship Programme, namely, Azerbaijan, Guatemala and Palau. It is also gratifying to see the increased number of women nominees for the Programme. This year eight Fellows are women, and we hope that Member States will maintain this trend and, pursuant to relevant decisions of the Economic and Social Council, will continue to take into account gender equality when nominating their candidates.

Indeed, the Programme could not have been so successful without the consistent support of all Member States, support that was amply reflected in the massive sponsorship of the draft resolution on United Nations disarmament fellowship training and advisory services that was adopted by the Committee without a vote just few days ago. I would like, therefore, to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to all Member States and organizations that have consistently supported the Programme throughout the years, thereby contributing to its success. I am

particularly grateful to the Government of Germany for hosting the participants of the Programme since 1980, and to the Government of Japan on the occasion of the twentieth annual study visit for the Fellows. That study visit, with its comprehensive presentation of the effects of the actual use of nuclear weapons, was initiated by Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki in 1982 at the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, in order "to enable young people who will shoulder the responsibilities of the next generation to visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki". It is my deep personal conviction that no initiation into disarmament diplomacy can be complete without a soul-stirring visit to Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

My sincere thanks are also addressed to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, as well as to the Center for Nonproliferation Studies of the Monterey Institute of International Studies, for their generous contributions in organizing study visits and seminars for the Fellows on various aspects of non-proliferation and disarmament in their respective areas of expertise and responsibility. I also thank those who responded to our invitation to lecture to the Fellows.

Allow me now to address the Fellows themselves.

The Fellowship Programme that you are about to conclude has been designed to give you a basic knowledge of arms control and disarmament issues, as well as to expose you to new challenges to international peace and security. It has to be regarded as a first step in your quest to find viable solutions to such challenges without relying upon weapons, be they conventional ones or weapons of mass destruction.

In my opening address to the First Committee, I emphasized that our task is to sustain a process of strengthening international peace and security through measures that include the total elimination of weapons of mass destruction and effective controls over other types of deadly weaponry. Today this task is even more demanding than before. The terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001 revealed new transnational threats to international peace and security, and focused the attention of international community on effective ways of countering them. However, the immediate renaissance of multilateralism that followed those attacks — based on the recognition that it is the best means for mobilizing all Member States to defend common values shared by the international community — have not yet brought about the expected results. In particular, it has not led to overcoming the existing impasse in disarmament negotiations and deliberations.

Today disarmament should no longer be business as usual. It requires new initiatives and new imaginative approaches to security challenges of our times, as well as renewed and consistent international cooperation in working out solutions addressing the concerns of all States.

It is my sincere hope that participation in the United Nations Programme of Fellowships on Disarmament will inspire you to further your disarmament studies and to enhance your professional knowledge and diplomatic skills so that you can use them creatively, while avoiding the pitfalls of easy solutions, but not your continuing duty to confront complex problems. I am also expecting to see you here in New York soon, in the First Committee or in the Disarmament Commission, or in Geneva at the Conference on Disarmament or in other arms limitation and disarmament bodies and conferences, assisting your older colleagues in pursuing the collective goals of arms limitation and disarmament.

I am sure that the experience and knowledge that you have acquired during the United Nations Disarmament Programme will be helpful in discharging your future duties and will stimulate you to a collective search for imaginative responses to new challenges to international peace and security. Through your participation in the Programme, you have also learned more about the importance and benefits of disarmament. Moreover, the last two months — a period filled with joint studies, training sessions and discussions with your colleagues from countries with diverse policies and schools of thought in this field — have provided you with a unique opportunity to familiarize yourselves with the security concerns of others. Friendships forged during this period will facilitate your future activities in international forums and will add you as new members to a worldwide web of disarmament experts. Use your enhanced knowledge wisely for the benefit of your countries and for the benefit of the whole international community. I wish you all the best in your future careers.

The Chairman: We shall now proceed to the awarding of certificates to the Fellows by the Under-Secretary-General. The Coordinator of the Programme will read out the names of the Fellows, one by one, and each fellow will come to the podium to receive his or her certificate.

Mr. Zalesky (Coordinator of the United Nations Programme of Fellowships on Disarmament): This year's Fellows are Mr. Cameron R. Archer (Australia), Mr. Emil Gasimov (Azerbaijan), Mr. Mohammad Allama Siddiki (Bangladesh), Mr. Rodrigo Toledo Bastidas (Chile), Mr. Kateba Coulibaly Nouho (Côte d'Ivoire), Mr. Petar Mihatov (Croatia), Mr. Assefa Delil Hassen (Ethiopia), Mr. Ingo Stender (Germany), Ms. Sara Angelina Solis Castañeda (Guatemala), Mr. Márk Horváth (Hungary), Mr. Mohammad Ichsan (Indonesia), Ms. Sofia Renata McGregor (Jamaica), Mr. Mohammed Ali Al-Nsour (Jordan), Ms. Jane Mutaoni Kahuki (Kenya), Mr. Anouparb Vongnorkeo (Lao People's Democratic Republic), Mr. Memory D. Chibwana (Malawi), Mr. Riedzal Abdul Malek (Malaysia), Mr. Jorge Luis Hidalgo Partida (Mexico), Mr. Jamal Maatougui (Morocco), Mr. Htin Kyaw (Myanmar), Mr. J. Marvin T. Ngirutang (Palau), Mrs. Carla Ivette Pousa Caride (Panama), Ms. Ji-hee Kim, (Republic of Korea), Mr. Alberto Neto Pereira (Sao Tome and Principe), Mr. Adil Y. Bannaga (Sudan), Mr. Ahmad Al Hariri (Syrian Arab Republic), Ms. Mouna Mcharek (Tunisia), Ms. Fatma Ömür Yurdakul (Turkey) and Mrs. Olesia Perevezentseva (Ukraine).

The Chairman: I would like to thank all delegations of the First Committee for their participation in the ceremony.

The meeting rose at 11.35 a.m.